WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for selecting dominant multi-media cues from a number of video segments, comprising the steps of:

calculating a multi-media information probability for each frame of the video segments;

dividing each of the video segments into sub-segments;

calculating a probability distribution of multi-media information for each of the sub-segments using the multi-media information for each frame;

combining the probability distribution for each sub-segments to form a combined probability distribution; and

selecting the multi-media information having the highest combined probability in the combined probability distribution as the dominant multi-media cues.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the video segments are selected from a group consisting of commercial segments and program segments.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the dividing video segments into sub-segments is performed using close caption information included in the video segments.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the combining the probability distribution for each sub-segments is performed by the operation selected from a group consisting of an average or a weighted average.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the combined probability distribution is formed from probability distributions of sub-segments of multiple programs.

6. The method of claim 1, which further includes initially selecting multi-media cues characteristic of a given TV program type or commercial.

7. A method of segmenting and indexing video, comprising the steps of:

selecting program segments from the video;

dividing the program segments into program sub-segments; and

performing genre-based indexing on the program sub-segments using multi-media cues characteristic of a given genre of program.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the selecting program segments is performed using multi-media cues characteristic of a given type of video segment.

9. The method of claim 7, wherein the dividing the program segments into program sub-segments is performed according to closed caption information included in the program segments.

10. The method of claim 7, wherein the genre-based indexing includes:

comparing the multi-media cues characteristic of a given genre of program to each of the program sub-segments; and

inserting a tag into one of the program sub-segments if there is a match between one of the multi-media cues and sub-segments.

11. The method of claim 7, which further include performing object-based indexing on the program sub-segments.

12. A method of storing video, comprising the steps of:

pre-processing the video;

selecting program segments from the video;

dividing the program segments into program sub-segments;

performing genre-based indexing on the program sub-segments using multi-media cues characteristic of a given genre of program to produce indexed program sub-segments; and

storing the indexed program sub-segments.

13. The method of claim 12, wherein the genre-based indexing includes:

comparing the multi-media cues characteristic of a given genre of program to each of the program sub-segments; and

inserting a tag into one of the program sub-segments if there is a match between one of the multi-media cues and sub-segments.

14. The method of claim 12, which further include performing object-based indexing on the program sub-segments.

15. A device for storing video, comprising:

a pre-processor for pre-processing the video;

a segmenting and indexing unit for selecting program segments from the video, dividing the program segments into program sub-segments and performing genre-based indexing on the program sub-segments using multi-media cues characteristic of a given genre of program to produce indexed program sub-segments; and

a storage device for storing the indexed program sub-segments.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein the genre-based indexing includes:

comparing the multi-media cues characteristic of a given genre of program to each of the program sub-segments; and

inserting a tag into one of the program sub-segments if there is a match between one of the multi-media cues and sub-segments.

17. The method of claim 15, wherein the segmenting and indexing unit further performs object-based indexing on the program sub-segments.